

REMARKS

Applicant confirms the election of claims 1-11 for continued prosecution in the instant application. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 6 and 8 through 11 remain pending in this application. New independent claims 29 and 30 have been added. Claims 7, 12 through 27 have been cancelled without prejudice to applicant to file one or more divisional applications. No additional fees are believed due with this response.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowed claim 7, namely that the first and second patterns of adhesive are provided in a stair step configuration. New claim 29 is similar to original claim 1 and includes a new limitation similar to that provided in claim 9, namely that the first and second adhesives have distinct coat weights. In addition, new claim 29 indicates that the second adhesive pattern is juxtaposed over the first adhesive pattern. New claim 30 includes the limitation that the first and second patterns are provided in a stair step configuration and the patterns are juxtaposed on one another.

Claims 1-11 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Landry et al. (US patent 4,995,641). Reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

It is believed that the rejection of the claims in view of the applied prior art is moot in view of the amendments to the claims. Landry et al does not disclose first and second adhesive patterns disposed in a stair step configuration as now required by

amended claim 1 or new independent claim 30 nor the presence of first and second adhesive patterns that are juxtaposed on one another and provided with different coat weights as in new independent claim 29.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Maier', written over the typed name.

Michael C. Maier
Reg. No. 36,206

P.O. Box 938
2401 Cooper Street
Fort Scott, KS 66701